

May 2000

## **IMPORT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS OF SINGAPORE FOR CHINCHILLAS, GERBILS, GUINEA PIGS, HAMSTERS, MICE, AND RATS EXPORTED FROM THE UNITED STATES**

A valid Import Permit issued by the Agri-food and Veterinary Authority (AVA) of Singapore is required. Animals presented for import as personal pets in the accompaniment of the owner (five animals maximum per species) do not require a health certificate. A health certificate is needed for all other shipments. The health certificate must be issued within 7 days of export by a veterinarian authorized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and endorsed by a Veterinary Services veterinarian. It must contain the names and addresses of the consignor and consignee, the name of the breeding facility, full identification of the animals, and the following certification statements:

### **CERTIFICATION STATEMENTS**

1. The animals are captive-bred and do not originate from the wild.
2. The animals have been kept continuously since birth, or for the past 12 months immediately prior to export, in an AVA-approved breeding facility where no case of rabies has been reported in the past 12 months prior to export.
3. The animals have been kept continuously since birth, or for the past 6 months immediately prior to export, in an AVA-approved breeding facility which has been free of evidence of the following diseases and disease agents for the past 12 months: lymphocytic choriomeningitis, hantavirus infection, Sendai virus, tularemia, and yersiniosis.
4. The animals have not been inoculated with any microorganisms nor been in contact with any animals that have been inoculated with any microorganisms.
5. The animals were treated for external parasites with \_\_\_\_\_ (state active ingredient) on \_\_\_\_\_ (state date), which is not less than 4 days, nor more than 14 days, prior to export.
6. The animals are healthy and free of any clinical sign of infectious or contagious disease and external parasites at the time of export and are deemed fit to travel.

### **OTHER INFORMATION**

1. The animals must be consigned to Singapore in a secure container that meets the relevant container requirements specified in the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Live Animals Regulations.

2. The owner or his/her agent must notify the Quarantine Office as stated in the Import Permit at least 1 working day prior to arrival of the animals.
3. Upon arrival in Singapore, the animals and related documents will be examined by an authorized Veterinary Officer. If the animals are found healthy and the documents are found in order, the animals will be subjected to a 2-week quarantine at AVA-approved premises. The Veterinary Officer will ask the owner or his/her agent to confirm that the listing of quarantine premises on the Import Permit is accurate. AVA officers may inspect the animals on the quarantine premises during the quarantine period.
4. For those shipments requiring a health certificate, the animals must be derived from an approved breeding facility. Approval of the facility must be sought before applying for an Import Permit by supplying to AVA technical information on the facility, e.g., name, address, and location; type and population of animals; diseases reported in the last year; results of serological surveys conducted on resident animals; contingency plans to handle disease outbreaks; sanitation and hygiene practices; management practices; and vaccination regimen.
5. For questions regarding Import Permit applications or breeding facility approvals, contact:

Head/Regulatory Services Branch  
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Division  
5 Maxwell Road #02-00  
Tower Block, MND Complex  
Singapore 069110

Telephone: 011 65 2270670